



# Parallax

Newsletter of the Central Coast Chapter of the  
California Land Surveyors Association

October 2015

Volume: 19

Issue: 10

## OCTOBER 2015 MEETING

**Date:** Wednesday, October 21, 2015

**Where:** Café Roma [Map](#)  
1020 Railroad Ave., San Luis Obispo

**Time:** 5:30-6:00 Social Hour      6:00pm Dinner & Meeting

**Menu:** Order off limited Menu

**Cost:** \$30.00 (payable to Central Coast CLSA)

**Program:** Double Header!! (See Details below)

**RSVP:** Cristi Fry [cfry@thainc.com](mailto:cfry@thainc.com)

### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

This Month we are lucky to have two distinct programs. After months of debates on the correct parliamentary procedure, we are lucky to have the National Champion Team from San Luis Obispo High's FFA program. They will school us on what the OTHER Roberts Rules of Orders mean. SLO High's FFA is a very active chapter of FFA and are highly involved in leadership activities. Something that All of us could benefit from.

In addition we will have a presentation from Life-long Learners of the Central Coast. Every day, 5,000

people turn 65 and find challenges not contemplated a very short time before. The good news: research shows you can push back the \*effects\* of aging through mental stimulation by almost a decade! Life-long Learners offers superior, information-rich, practical classes -which attendees have reported-positively affected their lives, and increased their enjoyment and appreciation for mentally stimulating events.

### In This Issue

About the Program..... pg. 1	Trimble Training .....pg. 4	Weird News ..... pg. 7
Immediate Past President ..... pg. 2	Guest Editorial ..... pg. 5	September Minutes.....pg. 8
President's Message..... pg. 3	NSPS News .....pg. 6	

## IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

by: George Marchenko

### MICROBES AND MANHOLES

**W**ell, it's October 2015 and I have strep throat. It's a bacteria, not highly contagious, must have picked it up somewhere. Remember to wash your hands before eating. Now I am on antibiotics and probiotics too. All this talk about microbes got me thinking about sewer manholes. Ever dip a sewer manhole? Lots of pathogens in there.

The term "pathogens" refers to the potentially disease-causing bacteria, viruses and parasites that abound in raw sewage. Use gloves, bleach in a spray bottle, disposable tip for the rod, and common sense caution to name a few. I wish SECO would come out with a condom designed for the end of a Philly Rod. Something about 3 or four feet long that you could peel off, inside out, and dispose of. We should also be wearing N95's (a mask used in health care) in some cases or at least have some good disposable masks in the truck.

Manhole covers date back to about 1900. In parts of England they are still doing their job right out there in the traffic. Cars still roll over manhole covers that also supported carriages and horses. The oldest manhole covers have square knobs. The knobs were hoof-holds for horses. Although I have read that in high traffic areas those knobs have worn down.

I wish I had known: There are manhole cover art conventions. In 2003 Moscow held one called "Sewers of the World Unite!" Who needs Comic-Con?

So back to the Strep, I had to pick



up the antibiotics. As sick as I was I knew to buy a pro-biotic. The pharmacist asked me what I was looking for and I was able to grunt the words (I had lost my voice at the time) pro-biotic. So he walked me over and said "don't look at the price, you want to buy one of these two. If you take one a day for the rest of your life it will add 5 years to your life." So I looked at the price of the two and picked the more expensive one. He said "that's the one I take".

It is 3 days later, fever is almost gone, the birds are singing, now if this cough would go away... But here is the question to which I ponder. Should I take the advice of a 70 year old pharmacist who has been looking at medical formulas for all these years and start taking a probiotic at the cost of a dollar a day? What if I spent that on lottery tickets instead? I would at least have a finite probability of hitting it rich. I can sit there and crunch the numbers and always get a solution, something I can get my hands on, something that is always the same answer. But, I have to hope for the stars to 'Align' to win the jackpot. With the first option, I have to trust in someone's experience and knowledge and I will never know if I won the grand prize. With the passage of time the first option becomes the better and better option. We'll see how the stars align.

2015

## Central Coast Chapter

### CLSA Officers

- ▶ **President -**  
Jonathan Walsh  
[jwalshpls8590@att.net](mailto:jwalshpls8590@att.net)
- ▶ **Vice President -**  
Cristi Fry  
[cfry@thainc.com](mailto:cfry@thainc.com)
- ▶ **Secretary / Treasurer**  
David Karp  
[karplandsurveys@gmail.com](mailto:karplandsurveys@gmail.com)
- ▶ **Immediate Past President**  
George Marchenko  
[georgem@wallacegroup.us](mailto:georgem@wallacegroup.us)
- ▶ **Chapter Representatives**  
Robert Reese  
[robert@reesesurveying.com](mailto:robert@reesesurveying.com)  
Ian McClain  
[iem@penfieldsmith.com](mailto:iem@penfieldsmith.com)  
Cristi Fry  
[cfry@thainc.com](mailto:cfry@thainc.com)

### Parallax

- ▶ **Publisher**  
Central Coast Chapter  
CLSA  
[Central.Coast.CLSA@gmail.com](mailto:Central.Coast.CLSA@gmail.com)
- ▶ **Editors**  
Linda Richardson  
[linda@mbslandsurveys.com](mailto:linda@mbslandsurveys.com)  
Tom Mastin  
[tmastin@calpoly.edu](mailto:tmastin@calpoly.edu)

To submit articles, request Parallax to be emailed to you, or for information on advertising in Parallax; email us at:

[Central.Coast.CLSA@gmail.com](mailto:Central.Coast.CLSA@gmail.com)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jonathan Walsh

**H**appy October one and all. I am not sure but this may have been the fastest year ever, do they get quicker as we get older? I will have to ask the editor that question...

We are very busy here at the officer level for the chapter. We think we have a new slate of officers for 2016. Thank you to the ones that have stepped up and volunteered and to those that worked so hard in getting that together. We are also getting it together for our Special Meeting next month, "Monument Conservation with Ron Nelm". We as Surveyors know and realize the importance and significance of survey monuments; so we want to try to spread the word. If there is someone from an agency that you know will benefit, let us know and we will buy him or her lunch at the meeting.

It is sure nice seeing most everyone so busy, I hear some even say, "to busy". Even Caltrans, where I work, is in process of hiring. That has not happened in a long while. If anyone is interested, get an application in as soon as you can. It is a slow process, but well worth it if you are hired.

I did a Job Shadow, this past week. My boss was contacted by a



young man from Morro Bay High School that was interested in Land Surveying. He had had an assignment to find someone in the career he was interested in, and interview him or her. It went pretty well, and I think I convinced him into perusing an education in Land Surveying. I mention this so that you know I am still working on my goal as Chapter President, which was to try to bring some youth into this profession. I am also in contact with the Cuesta College Surveying Education Teacher, and I am scheduled to meet with their Saturday Class next month. I look forward to this every semester. I get permission to bring a work truck with equipment. I set up a total station and let the students run the rod. Autolock on an S6, always impresses them. Cuesta is looking for an instructor for their Surveying Class. A degree is not required, but a Land Surveying License is.

This year is quickly coming to an end. I think it has been a successful year for us here on the Central Coast. I hope that the State level and all the new changes will transition into a smooth running organization. I want to thank all of the current serving officers and I want to also welcome all of the incoming officers. One thing about several people in this Chapter is how supportive they have been to me through the years as an officer. Robert Reese is another very supportive and encouraging person. Several times before I would even get home from a meeting, I will have all ready have received an email from Robert. Many times it was information that was an item of discussion that evening, but many times it was be a just a three word email, "nice job tonight" or something similar. In addition, I also must mention Robert's wife, Sharon, was so very generous complementing me on things when she would attend meetings. There were several other people that I am not mentioning that have really helped me the last four years as an officer, and thank you one and all. We are a special profession full of very special people.



**ROBERT J. REESE**  
Owner • PLS 6208  
robert@reesesurveying.com

1970 Partridge Drive  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405  
Tel/Fax: 805-543-5375



**triad/holmes associates**  
Civil Engineering, Land Surveying  
Mammoth Lakes \* Bishop  
Redwood City \* Napa \* San Luis Obispo

Specializing in: Land Development, Subdivision  
Mapping & Improvement Plans, Storm Water  
Pollution Prevention Plans, ALTA Surveys, Lot  
Line Adjustments, Construction Staking

**CRISTI FRY, P.E., L.S.**  
website: [www.thainc.com](http://www.thainc.com) email: [slo@thainc.com](mailto:slo@thainc.com)  
555 chorro street, suite a1, slo phone: (805) 544-8908



San Luis Obispo – October 2015



# Trimble Business Center 2 Day Training Course



Trimble Business Center provides users with the capability to efficiently edit, process, and adjust geospatial data and create deliverables with confidence.

**PAYMENT**  
**\$775**

**Class Objective:**  
Obtain necessary knowledge to take and pass the TBC Certified User Exam.

Computer Rental for Training  
Available upon Request .  
Please allow 7 days advance  
notice setup time.

## Listed Topics

1. With Trimble Access Streamline Trimble work flows with GNSS and conventional survey instruments
2. General topics on Trimble Vision procedures with the V10 Image Station and S6 Robotic Instrument.
3. Review of pairing project type to GNSS collection type.
4. All types of Kinematic and Static GNSS survey types will be discussed
5. Coordinate System Manager and Geoid Utilization
6. Discussion of current trends utilizing the RTX and Xfill capability of the R10 GNSS system.
7. Explanation of the feature Code Utilization and automated line work creation
8. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own project data or questions to be reviewed in class.

### DATE:

Wednesday & Thursday,  
October 21-22, 2015

### TIME:

8AM - 5PM (Both Days)

### LOCATION:

Wallace Group  
612 Clarion Court  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

### Payment Contact:

Whitney Smelser

**Trimble Certified Trainer**

Phone: 805-208-0828

Email: wasan004@yahoo.com



**PAYMENT:** Materials will be ordered therefore full payment must be made 7 days in advance before attending the class.

## GUEST EDITORIAL

*This is the first in a series of guest editorials, this one is actually a reprint of a guest editorial in the June 1996 Parallax. It didn't make much sense then, even less now.*

### SURVEYING IN THE SLO

By: Sam Inmott

I have often thought that living in San Luis Obispo and making a living in land surveying are pretty much the same. Now, ride with me on this one; stay on the train a little longer, we aren't anywhere near the train station yet.

The one thing that all surveyors know, after years of surveying in the urban jungle, is that everyone, every-one, has either surveyed, been related to a surveyor or had a surveying experience in another life. We all know its fact, we talk about it all the time, we've had seminars on the subject; there has even been an X-File episode on the phenomenon.

You know the story, you are kneeling down in the middle of the busiest intersection at the busiest time of the day digging mud and spiders out of a monument well, when someone pulls up beside you in their motor home, completely blocking your view of oncoming traffic.

"Hey what are you doing?"

"We're surveying for the new nuclear dump site!"

"He, he, good one. Is that one of those laser or satellite things" they say looking over at the instrument, where you wish you were right now.

"No, it uses infrared wavelength ... Yeah, it's a laser"

"Back in the 40's I worked on a survey crew, but we didn't have all this fancy equipment. We had to



LANE

do it all by hand. The guy that ran the crew worked us hard, it was the toughest work I ever did."

"Wow, what kind of surveying was it?"

"It was for some big project."

"Oh, how long did you work on it"

"Oh, I quit at noon. The guy was an SOB. Well I'll let you get back to work, have fun!" as he drives off, leaving the 30 cars that got backed up during your conversation to glare at you as they drive by.

My other favorite, is the student walking by, and then very slowly stopping and looking until they can't stand it anymore.

"Hey is that a camera? Can you take my picture? Are you guys watching someone? Can I look through it? What are you doing?"

"We're surveying a lot down the street"

Oh, my uncle was a surveyor in Montana, I think. He was the state surveyor or something like that, I

think. Anyway that what mom said when we were at his funeral."

"Oh, I'm sorry"

"That's okay, he died when I was young. He got hit by a car when they passed a motor home that was stopped talking to him. Have a nice day."

The question many of you have by now is - I Don't pay for this rag do I? But some might actually be thinking -How does this relate to San Luis Obispo? Well if you have lived in San Luis Obispo for any

The question many of you have by now is - I Don't pay for this rag do I? But some might actually be thinking -How does this relate to San Luis Obispo?

length of time you know the answer. It is the same phenomenon; everyone has either lived here, known someone who has lived here or broke down here while driving through.

I've called a Computer Mail Order place who's marketing genius thought "Let's see, cutting edge technology; Fast, curious and efficient service; what best exemplifies our company - I know a cow". Oddly enough it worked, Americans as a society relate cows to techno-

Continued on Page 7

NGS PUBLISHES FIRST ISSUE OF NSRS  
MODERNIZATION NEWS

**N**OAA's National Geodetic Survey (NGS) is pleased to announce the first issue of NSRS Modernization News. NGS plans to publish this newsletter quarterly, providing brief, but important, details about work being done at NGS to modernize the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS). Much of the news will focus on the replacement of the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) and the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88). Related projects, such as re-inventing blue-booking and improving the NGS toolkit will also be addressed.

NAD 83 and NAVD 88 will be replaced in 2022. This newsletter will help to inform users of the forthcoming changes and help to ensure a smooth transition to a modernized NSRS.

See the first inaugural newsletter issue here: <http://www.geodesy.noaa.gov/datums/newdatums/NSR-ModernizationNews001.pdf>.

NSPS URGES FAA TO ACT ON UAS

**N**SPS joined a coalition of organizations in a letter urging the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to promptly implement final rules for integration of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) into the National Airspace System (NAS). The letter, organized by the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI), marks the September 30, 2015 Congressionally-mandated deadline for FAA rules. Key points communicated in the letter include: "On behalf of businesses across a wide range of industry sectors in the United States, we urge the FAA to use all available means to finalize the small UAS rules immediately without any further delays, and move ahead with the next regulatory steps on the path for integrating all UAS into the NAS. Once this happens, we will have an established framework for UAS operations that will do away with the case-by-case system of approvals, reducing the barriers to commercial UAS operations. And importantly, having more trained commercial operators will create a culture of safety that helps deter careless and reckless behavior."

Central Coast Chapter  
**CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION**  
2015 Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address<sup>1</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Contact<sup>2</sup>   
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are you: LS LSIT RCE Other  
 State CLSA: Life Corporate Affiliate Student Associate None

1. This is where Parallax and all other chapter correspondence is to be sent
2. Check if you should be the primary contact for the company or agency

Chapter Dues \$20.00 *per Person (Yearly Dues)*

Please Make Check payable to: Central Coast Chapter CLSA

*Send Payments to :* David Karp  
 543 Andrea Cir.  
 Paso Robles, CA 93446

I am also contributing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for Scholarship Fund

I am also contributing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for Trig-Star Fund

logical advancement; and the cows think they have it good in India.

I call them up, get a salesman who has an accent that places him either as a native of Pakistan or Iowa, I always get those confused. I place my order, give him enough numbers to fill in the MASTER CARD slots, then they ask for my address; "What City?"

"San Luis Obispo, that three words S..A..N..new word.--"

"I know San Luis Obispo, heck I lived there for a few years. I went to Cal Poly, man what a great town."

"Oh, when did you graduate?"

"My major was liberal arts. I didn't quite graduate, never finished my senior project, man what a great town. Do you know that place where everyone went to play pool?"

"Mustang tavern?"

"Yeah, that the place! Your order will get there in two to three days, unless of course it gets there later. The cost is \$1900 plus shipping and handling which brings the total to \$3900. Have a nice day"

It doesn't take a Ph.D. to know that a student who didn't graduate and only memory of college is Mustang tavern was missing a lot more than their senior project.

I have developed a theorem concerning the Everybody's a surveyor phenomenon. First remember that if you have no idea of what a land surveyor is, the job seems, dare I say it, romantic, much like international espionage, without the silencers. People like the idea

of working in the outdoors, doing something that, less face it, doesn't look all that physically demanding. Second remember that no one knows actually what a surveyor does, unless of course they have to testify in court, which makes them an expert.

My Theory goes that being a surveyor is much like remembering events that you actually never participated in. You have in your head

My Theory goes that being a surveyor is much like remembering events that you actually never participated in.

a distinct memory of the event, you tell the story like you were there, you are looking forward to the reunion of all those involved in the event, until you meet and talk to someone who was actually at the event and says you weren't there! It was until shattered your own little truth.

To many people surveying is their own little truth... They think they surveyed, they even think they know surveying, sometimes they actually have stories about surveying, but they never have surveyed! Of course people who do survey for a living often have the opposite truth.

This theory fits right into the SLO Phenomena. What makes San Luis

Obispo so unique is not its beauty, although it is a beautiful City; it not its charm, although you won't find a more charming city this side of the sierras; it's not the hospitality of its natives because after all they are pretty much jerks. It's the initials stupid. It's the "SLO" life, "SLO" made this and that; Obispoen's do it "SLO"er. Get it, Einstein. SLO almost like SLOW and the initials of the City. Like LALA land without the connotation. Everyone remembers it, conceives what it must be like to live here and creates their own little truth.

Now both these truths have their advantages. First most people tend to like surveyor at first sight unless of course their first view of the surveyors is of them setting hundreds of pink lath in their back yard (That's a special hint to the DWR crews). People think of surveyors as almost an acquaintance or friend. It is almost always a good first impression we make through no effort of our own.

Now the SLO life tends to mean the country Yuppie life, which brings with it, not higher pay, but more interesting alternatives than most cities of the same size. In fact this whole theory came to me as I was leaving one of the two, yes two, Starbucks operating in this town. I couldn't help but think "Yes, this is the SLO life" as I drove the Volvo home, cautiously avoiding the Cities homage to the Traffic gods; white painted tires and pylons in the middle of intersections.

**A**n international property rental service recently found a seven-bedroom castle on 200 acres in Ringuette, France, for the equivalent of \$2,925 a month -- which San Francisco's KNTV imme-

diately contrasted with the listing of a 401-square-foot apartment in the city's Lower Haight district, offered at \$3,000 per month. A [KNTV, 9-9-2015]



**CENTRAL COAST CHAPTER**  
of the  
**CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION**

Email: [central.coast.clsa@gmail.com](mailto:central.coast.clsa@gmail.com)

## MINUTES

**CENTRAL COAST CHAPTER CLSA MEETING** held on **September 23, 2015** at **6:00 PM** at **Pappy McGregor's, San Luis Obispo, CA**

**CALL TO ORDER 6:03 PM**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL/ INTRODUCTIONS**

Jonathan Walsh, President  
Cristi Fry, Vice President  
David Karp, Secretary/Treasurer  
George Marchenko, Immediate Past President  
Ian McClain - State CLSA Board Director  
Linda Richardson - State CLSA Board Director

**20** in attendance at the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** by David Karp and **SECONDED** by Tom Mastin to approve the July 15, 2015 Chapter Meeting Minutes as published in the September Parallax.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Jonathan Walsh reported: Clayton Bradshaw sent an email to him inviting everyone from the Chapter to the ASCE meeting with Ric Moore as the speaker. The date is Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at the Embassy Suites, and it will cost \$50.00, which will go to the program and the ASCE Scholarship Fund.

He also reported that the new person at central office to replace Dorothy Caligari will be Jennifer Blevin.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Vice President Cristi Fry thanked everyone who has stepped up to serve on all the committees for the local chapter.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT**

Secretary/Treasurer David Karp reported the current Chapter checking account balance is **\$9,622.61**.





**CENTRAL COAST CHAPTER**  
**of the**  
**CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION**

Email: [central.coast.clsa@gmail.com](mailto:central.coast.clsa@gmail.com)

I sent the Chapter Quarterly report to Central Office on September 10, 2015. The cost for dinner tonight is \$25, make checks payable to CCCCLSA.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Ian McClain reported that at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Board of Director's Meeting on July 25, 2015 President Seymour created 7 new ad-hoc committees charged with making recommendations to the Board on their actions: CEO/EO/COO com., County Surveyor com., Unrecorded Maps com., Restructuring com., Student Conference com., Qualification Based Selection com., Financial QA/QC Audit com.

Director Linda Richardson reported that she has resigned as a chapter Director as of August 31, 2015. She has also resigned as the chair of the Bylaws Committee, effective the same date.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Tom Mastin was present and had nothing to report.

**WORKSHOP COMMITTEE REPORT**

Jesse Brady was not present and had no report.

**TRIGSTAR COMMITTEE REPORT**

George Marchenko reported that we had 166 participants in the TrigStar Competition from 5 schools around the area. Tyler McCreary from San Luis Obispo High School, won both the Local and the State Competition, she is a senior this year and will not be in the competition next year.

**BBQ COMMITTEE REPORT**

Jonathan thanked everyone for donating and helping out with this year's CLSA BBQ. He wanted to especially thank the Ken Fargen crew for putting on a magnificent spread, and the Cary's for the cookies.

**PROGRAM**

No Program, this is a business meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

President Jonathan Walsh called for any old business; there was none at this time.

**EQUIPMENT DONATION REVIEW COMMITTEE**

The committee had nothing to report.



**CENTRAL COAST CHAPTER**  
**of the**  
**CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION**

Email: [central.coast.clsa@gmail.com](mailto:central.coast.clsa@gmail.com)

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

The nominating committee reported elections of new officers:

President: Cristi Fry (Elected Position)

Vice President: Dave Karp (Elected Position)

Secretary/Treasurer: George Marchenko (Elected Position)

Director: Ian McClain (Elected Position)

Director: Robert Reese (Elected Position)

Director: (Elected Position)

Alternate Director: Cristi Fry

Alternate Director: Jonathan Walsh

Immediate Past President Jonathan Walsh

**MOTION** by Robert Reese and **SECONDED** by Tom Mastin to open the floor to nomination discussion.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Discussion about the current Nomination and ask that anyone who wanted to contest any of the elected officials, we would then have a vote. No one contested.

**MOTION** by Robert Reese and **SECONDED** by Tom Mastin to close the nomination discussion.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Cristi Fry and **SECONDED** by Paul Karp to approve the nominated officials and we will fill the last Director position with an alternate or another individual.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

President Jonathan Walsh called for any new business:

**MOTION** by George Marchenko and **SECONDED** by Robert Reese to approve the chapter gives up to \$1500 for the Education Foundation to maintain a balance of \$1500 for our three scholarships, based on the current balance from Central Office.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MONUMENT PRESERVATION COMMITTEE:**

Robert Reese reported that Ron Nelms will be giving the Monument Preservation Presentation to the invited public, private, and neighboring chapters (Robert has the list). He will also confirm if the presentation will be considered for continuing education hours. It will take place at Café Roma in San Luis Obispo on October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**CENTRAL COAST CHAPTER**  
**of the**  
**CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION**

Email: [central.coast.clsa@gmail.com](mailto:central.coast.clsa@gmail.com)

Next meeting October 21, at Café Roma in San Luis Obispo, speaker will be Ron Nelms,

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Jonathan Walsh adjourned the meeting at **7:19** pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Karp, PLS  
2015 Secretary/Treasurer  
Central Coast Chapter of the California Land Surveyors Association